SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

October 9, 2002

PART A
SAN DIEGO REGION STAFF ACTIVITIES *(Staff Contact)*

1. Stormwater Subcommittee of the Beach Water Quality Workgroup *(Jeremy Haas)*
On September 18, 2002 staff attended the second quarterly meeting of the stormwater subcommittee of the Beach Water Quality Workgroup, an ad hoc committee composed of groups responsible for the protection and reporting of beach water quality in Southern California. Attendees included representatives from the Counties of San Diego, Orange and Los Angeles, the Cities of Encinitas, Oceanside, and San Diego, the SWRCB, private consultants and vendors of stormwater best management practices. The objective of the meeting was to prioritize goals for the subcommittee. Two notable goals of five that were selected include: (1) Developing a background "signature" or "range" of water flows, bacteria, and other analytical data from coastal storm drains using data collected per the San Diego municipal storm water permit; and (2) Identifying methods for monitoring and sanitary surveys to detect sources of bacteria in the watershed.

In addition, the City of San Diego presented a bacteria source tracking case where high levels of bacteria in a coastal outfall were tracked to a failing private sewer lateral in a beach community. City staff had observed high ammonia counts at the outfall along with elevated bacteria data. Once the elevated counts were reconfirmed with followup sampling, stormdrain maps were used to identify strategic manhole locations, from which water samples were tested for ammonia using inexpensive field kits. Within a few hours, the contributing storm drain branch was identified, and visual indicators in the surface gutters were used to find the leaking lateral. City staff concluded that irrigation water was transporting the spill into the storm drain and to the beach. Regional Board staff will evaluate the illicit discharge detection actions and will promote the sharing of techniques among municipal storm water copermittees. The next meeting is scheduled for December.

2. Erosion and Sediment Control Training *(Ben Neill)*
On September 23, 2002, The City of San Diego's Storm Water Pollution Prevention Program and the Engineering & General Contractor's Association (EGCA) conducted erosion and sediment control training. Engineers and contractors who attended the one day training were taught erosion and sediment control methods, compliance with applicable National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits, and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) development and implementation. Ben Neill of the Southern Watershed Protection Unit presented a brief history of storm water regulations in California. Staff then explained the compliance expectations for construction sites

including thorough erosion control, sediment control, pollution prevention, and SWPPP documentation. The training was attended by approximately 30 engineers, developers, construction personnel, and consultants.

3. Orange County Coastal Coalition and Orange County Wetland Recovery Project Task Force *(Jeremy Haas)*

On September 26, 2002 staff attended meetings of the Orange County Coastal Coalition (Coalition) and Orange County Wetland Recovery Project Task Force (WRP) that were held consecutively. County Supervisor Tom Wilson, who represents the majority of the County in Region 9, chairs both working groups. The focus of the Coalition meeting, attended by a broad spectrum of interest groups, including the Santa Ana Regional Board and three south County municipal stormwater copermittees, was to hear updates from the WRP and Coalition members. The County of Orange reported that a study has been commissioned to assess BMPs for fats, oils, and grease issues involved in sewage spills and that the County will be submitting 18 projects to the SWRCB for the Clean Beach Initiative (CBI) priority list. Details were not provided on the projects, but on October 10, 2002, the County will release a report card summarizing results of a water infrastructure survey that will include an evaluation of sewage and stormwater systems throughout Orange County. Staff anticipates that this will provide support for future grant applications to the SWRCB and Regional Board. Staff will update the Regional Board as the report card and CBI requests are made available.

The focus of the WRP Task Force meeting was to preview results from the WRP science panel recommendations for Strengthening Regional Planning of Wetland Ecosystem Restoration and Management in Southern California. The science panel's recommendations to the WRP include aspects that could assist several Regional Board activities - Section 401 water quality certifications, review of grant and supplemental environmental project proposals, review of plans to abate effects from NPDES discharges, and TMDLs. Specifically, the science panel initiatives include a regional wetland and riparian monitoring and inventory program with decision support tools for prioritizing wetland and riparian recovery efforts. The WRP science panel's position paper will be released at the WRP symposium in Ventura on 16-18 October. Board Member Terese Ghio and staff plan to attend the symposium.

4. Construction and Municipal Storm Water Outreach Efforts *(Robert Morris)*

During September, staff participated in several outreach efforts regarding construction storm water.

On September 18, 19, and 20, 2002, Benjamin Tobler and Eric Becker conducted a series of presentations to the staff of the Building Division of the County of San Diego. Staff presented an overview of State's General Construction Permit storm water requirements and the County's responsibilities under the Municipal Storm Water Permit 2001-01. Staff explained the background of storm water regulations, detailed various Best Management Practices (BMPs) options for construction sites, and explained the Regional Board's enforcement process. Staff emphasized pollution prevention, effective erosion control

BMPs, and education/outreach to keep construction sites in compliance with the storm water regulations. The presentations were well attended by over 50 County staff.

On September 18, 2002, Christopher Means participated in the Standard Pacific Homes workshop to familiarize their subcontractor's with the requirements of the Statewide General Construction Permit. The workshop was well attended by over 150 contractors from a variety of construction trades.

On September 25, 2002, the City of Encinitas conducted a workshop on the City's and State's storm water and urban runoff regulations. Chris Means described the City's responsibilities under the San Diego Municipal Storm Water Permit, as it relates to construction activities. Staff also discussed our expectations for BMP implementation for construction sites covered under the Statewide General Construction Permit. A lively question and answer session followed the presentations, and in all, the workshop was a great success.

On September 26, 2002, the Inland Erosion Control, Inc. sponsored an erosion and sediment control course conducted by Michael Harding of San Diego State University to familiarize the development community in southern Riverside County on effective Best Management Practices (BMPs) for construction sites. During the course, Eric Becker and Christopher Means explained our expectations for erosion control during the upcoming rainy season and answered numerous site specific questions. Staff emphasized pollution prevention, implementation of erosion control BMPs, and good site maintenance to avoid enforcement by the Regional Board. The course included a presentation by Steve Fuller from U.S. EPA. The workshop garnered significant interest from the development community and was attended by over 60 people.

5. Presentation at the Joint SWRCB/RWQCB/CUPA UST Roundtable *(Barry S. Pulver) (Attachment A-5)*

Barry Pulver of the Tank Site Mitigation and Cleanup (TSMC) Unit presented an analysis of the results of the Field Based Research (FBR) Program in Temecula to the September 2002 Joint SWRCB/RWQCB/CUPA UST Roundtable in Riverside, California. A copy of the Powerpoint presentation is attached. This meeting attracted over 150 representatives from the State Board, Regional Boards, and Certified Unified Program Agencies from throughout the state. The FBR Program is a statewide effort to assess the performance of the 1998 UST upgrades and evaluate the environmental significance of vapor leaks from upgraded USTs. In Temecula, the UST systems at 21 operating gasoline stations were tested using the Tracer Tight™ enhanced leak detection method. Test results show that the tracer compounds introduced into the fuel tanks were detected outside of at least one UST system at 74 percent of the stations tested. The significance of this finding is that a very high percentage of stations are leaking gasoline or diesel vapors from the UST systems, at "leak rates" that are not detectable using standard methods. Stations that are already cleaning up soil and groundwater from previous leaks were more likely to fail the enhanced leak detection test (7 out of 9 stations in the cleanup

oversight program) compared to stations that had never had a detectable release in the past (7 out of 10 stations never in the cleanup oversight program).

6. Public Outreach – Regional Board Waiver Policy *(John Odermatt)*
On September 11, 2002, the Regional Board adopted a Basin Plan amendment (Resolution No. 2002-0186) as a first step in establishing a new waiver policy for the San Diego Region. On September 25, 2002, Regional Board staff presented elements of Resolution 2002-0186 (temporary waste pile waiver for petroleum wastes and dredge spoils) at the Site Assessment and Mitigation (SAM) Forum sponsored by the County of San Diego Department of Environmental Health. Participants in the SAM Forum include consultants, dischargers, and local regulatory agencies that commonly oversee the investigation and cleanup of contaminated sites. The waivers of waste discharge requirements (WDRs) for temporary wastes piles are of particular concern to the SAM Forum audience, because these waivers help to significantly streamline permitting requirements for many projects involving the excavation and disposal of petroleum contaminated soils. Regional Board staff outlined the conditional waiver requirements and summarized the status of the waiver policy for the SAM Forum participants.

PART B
SIGNIFICANT REGIONAL WATER QUALITY ISSUES

1. Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSO) *(Victor Vasquez, Chiara Clemente, David Hanson, Bryan Ott) (Attachment B-1)*
In September 2002, there were 35 sanitary sewer overflows from publicly-owned sewage collection systems reported to the Regional Board office; 18 of these spills reached surface waters or storm drains, and one resulted in closure of recreational waters. Of the total number of overflows from public systems, five were 1,000 gallons or more. Regional Board staff has updated the sewer overflow statistics for each sewer agency by fiscal year since FY 1998-99 in the attached table entitled "Sanitary Sewer Overflow Statistics."

Six sewage overflows from private property were also reported in September, one of which was 1,000 gallons or more. Three of the private property spills reached surface waters or storm drains, and two resulted in closure of recreational waters.

A total of 0.31 inches of rainfall was recorded at San Diego's Lindbergh Field in September. For comparison, in August 2002, no rainfall was recorded, and 37 public SSOs were reported; in September 2001, no rainfall was recorded, and 31 public SSOs were reported.

One Notice of Violation (NOV) with a Request for Technical Information (RTI) was issued in September for recent significant overflows. The NOV was issued to the following agency:

County of San Diego
The County of San Diego (County) reported two related sanitary sewer overflows from the County's collection system in Spring Valley that occurred on August 28 and 30, 2002 and resulted in sewage discharges of 1,200 gallons and 2,000 gallons, respectively. The first overflow was reported as due to a blockage cause by roots and grease. The second overflow was due to the collapse of the sewer line as repairs were pending after the first overflow. The discharges soaked into a dry creek bed in Whitestone Canyon, tributary to and approximately one mile upstream of the Sweetwater Reservoir.

Sewer and Grease Training Seminar
Ziad Mazboudi with the City of San Juan Capistrano and Tom Rosales with South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) organized and hosted a Sewer and Grease Training Seminar on September 12, 2002 at the City of San Juan Capistrano Community Center. The seminar speakers presented information on various topics including SSO regulations, collection system personnel training, control of grease in the sewer system, and managing utility resources. Over 120 people attended the seminar including representatives from 11 agencies in southern Orange County, two agencies in north San Diego County, and 24 agencies from outside the region.

One of the speakers at the seminar was Regional Board staff member Victor Vasquez who presented overviews of the regulatory program under Order No. 96-04, General Waste Discharge Requirements Prohibiting Sanitary Sewer Overflows by Sewage Collection Agencies, and the US EPA's proposed SSO Rule and Capacity, Management, Operation and Maintenance (CMOM) requirements. Other speakers included Monica Mazure (County of Orange Health Care Agency, Ocean Water Protection Program), Larry Dees (Moulton Niguel Water District, standardized training approaches), Tom Rosales (SOCWA, sewer management resources), Jon Kinley (Environmental Compliance Inspection Services, approaches to grease control), and Ralph Palomares (El Toro Water District, grease control at food establishments). City of San Juan Capistrano council member John Gelff welcomed attendees and stated his support for the goals of the seminar. A sewage spill containment demonstration by South Coast Water District personnel was conducted during the afternoon session.

2. Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Activities Update

Rainbow Creek Nutrients TMDL *(Lisa Brown, Alan Monji)*
A site visit to Rainbow Creek was made on September 11, 2002. The purpose of the visit is to tour the watershed and sampling locations on the Creek. Regional Board staff, County staff, representatives from Hines Nursery, Mission Resource Conservation District, Department of Agriculture, and SDSU attended.

"B" Street/Broadway Piers, Grape Street, and Switzer Creek Contaminated Sediment TMDLs *(Brennan Ott, Alan Monji)*
The Scope of Work for UC Davis Marine Pollution Studies Laboratory is complete and the contract has been submitted to the State Board for approval. Work is anticipated to begin in January 2003 with contract approval.

3. Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification Actions Taken in 9/2002
(Stacey Baczkowski)

DATE	APPLICANT	PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT DESCRIPTION	CERTIFICATION ACTION
9/22/02	City of San Diego, Metropolitan Wastewater Department	Mission Gorge Emergency Sewer Repair	Emergency repair resulted from a rock slide at the adjacent quarry. The rock slide diverted river flow and imperiled the sewer line and at least one associated manhole.	Standard
9/23/02	County of San Diego, Department of Public Works	Mission Road/Via Monserate Improvement	Project proposes minor widening along the west side of Mission Road to accommodate a left turn pocket at Via Monserate and improve the turn radius at Heller's bend and Mission Road. In addition, the project proposes to replace existing drainage pipes along Mission Road that are in need of repair or are non-functional.	Conditional
9/23/02	City of Del Mar	San Dieguito River Mouth Opening	To open the river mouth to tidal flushing to relieve the stress on the marine habitat. Opening inlet will require grading 15,000 cubic yards from the channel (shoreline to the railroad bridge) and transfer of dredged sand to the beach (north and south of the inlet). Once the lagoon inlet is opened, ocean water will be tested from bacteria concentrations until safe for public use (approximately 3-5 days).	Standard
9/30/02	Sheffield Homes	Tentative Tract Number 29875	80-Acre development, construction of 306 single-family housing units, 2 open space lots, 3 greenbelts, and roadway improvements.	Conditional

Public notification of pending 401 Water Quality Certification applications can be found on our web site at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/Programs/Special_Programs/401_Certification/401_certification.html.

4. Sea Water Desalination Pilot Plant at the Encina Power Station *(John Phillips and Hashim Navrozali) (Attachment B-4)*

On September 10, 2002, Cabrillo Power, owner and operator of the Encina Power Station in Carlsbad, submitted a request to install and operate a sea water desalination pilot plant at the Encina Power Station from October 2002 through October 2006. Poseidon Resources, a water resources development company, has entered into partnership with Cabrillo Power to provide funding, equipment, and technical expertise for the pilot plant. Cabrillo Power will provide a temporary site and onsite facility improvements to accommodate the pilot plant, including use of its cooling water discharge pond, adjacent to the Agua Hedionda Lagoon.

The existing NPDES permit for the Encina Power Station (Order No. 2000-03) already authorizes a sea water RO unit for the generation of desalinated water. The proposed pilot plant appears to conform with operational parameters and waste discharge specifications required by the Order for the sea water RO unit. No separate *Report of Waste Discharge (RWD)* was therefore required for the proposed pilot plant.

Cabrillo Power and Poseidon Resources will be using the data generated from the pilot plant to develop a full-scale 50 MGD desalination facility at the Encina Power Station. The full-scale desalination plant, if approved, is expected to start operation in 2006 and will provide high quality potable water to local and regional water suppliers in San Diego County.

The pilot plant will be diverting up to 0.15 MGD of water from the power station's cooling water discharge pond to a pretreatment system (sand filtration or microfiltration) for removal of suspended solids. The warm temperatures of the cooling water discharge pond will help improve the efficiency of the pretreatment system. A portion of the pretreated water will be conveyed to a reverse osmosis (RO) system for membrane filtration treatment and production of desalinated water. The RO system will produce up to 36,000 gallons per day of desalinated product water. The pilot project will also generate low-volume waste streams such as backwash flows from the pretreatment system (containing removed suspended solids), backwash flows from the RO system (waste brine), and RO membrane cleaning wastes. The desalinated product water and waste streams will be continuously routed back to Encina Power Station's cooling water discharge pond for disposal.

In a letter (attached) dated September 24, 2002 the Executive Officer authorized the commencement of the pilot plant discharge. Pursuant to California Water Code, Section 13267, the letter directed Cabrillo Power to provide monthly reports regarding the operation of the desalination pilot plant, including daily volumes of water diverted from the Encina Power Station discharge pond, daily volumes of desalinated product water and low-volume wastes generated, and amounts of individual chemicals and additives used at the desalination pilot plant such sodium hypochlorite, ferric chloride, ferric sulfate, sulfuric acid, and sodium bisulfate. The letter also advised Cabrillo Power and Poseidon Resources that a RWD will have to be submitted prior to installation of the proposed full-scale 50 MGD desalination at Encina Power Station.

5. NASSCO and Southwest Marine Shipyards *(Tom Alo)*

Phase 2 field activities were initiated in early September 2002 at NASSCO and Southwest Marine shipyards and will be completed by early October 2002. Phase 2 will complete data collection efforts at the shipyards. A comprehensive report that includes the data and findings of the investigation is anticipated for submittal to the Regional Board in January 2003.

6. Status of Report of Waste Discharge for Proposed Subsurface Disposal System Near Lake Cuyamaca, San Diego County *(Bryan Ott) (Attachment B-6)*

On October 31, 2001, the Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District (hereinafter discharger) submitted to this Regional Board an incomplete Report of Waste Discharge prepared by Kennedy/Jenks Consultants for a proposed septic tank with a subsurface disposal leach field infiltration system. On January 28, 2002, the discharger submitted a complete Report of Waste Discharge.

Wastewater is collected for treatment from two areas surrounding Lake Cuyamaca as follows: 1) the south shore facilities, which consist of a restaurant, two campground restrooms, a recreational vehicle (RV) dump-station, and a fish cleaning station, and 2) the north shore facilities, which have two campground restrooms and a fish cleaning station. Currently wastewater treatment and disposal is regulated under Order No. 92-028, "*Waste Discharge Requirements for the Lake Cuyamaca Recreation and Park District*", which was adopted on May 13, 1992 by the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 7). Effluent is ultimately disposed of by land spreading on a remote site in Region 7. It is anticipated that the discharger will lose authorization to dispose of effluent at the Region 7 site as early as March 2003 due to sale of the land to the Nature Conservancy.

The Report of Waste Discharge indicates that wastewater collected from the south and north shore facilities will be transported by truck to a proposed waste disposal system in the San Diego Region consisting of an 8,000-gallon surge tank, an 8,000-gallon septic tank, and a subsurface disposal leach field infiltration system. Land is available for a reserve leach field in accordance with County of San Diego requirements. The proposed leach field site begins approximately 850 feet northwesterly of the intersection of Highway 79 and Sunrise Highway (Route S-1) and extends approximately 800 feet to the north. Sited at the approximate elevation of 4,775 feet, the system is located over 1,500 feet from the high water line of Lake Cuyamaca, a recreational and municipal water supply reservoir, and 50 feet higher than the high water level (spillway elevation). The site slopes toward Highway 79 with slopes that vary from 10 to 20%.

Since January 2002, staff continued to review the application and also gathered additional information from other interested parties. Several citizens residing near the proposed disposal site have raised a number of concerns about the project and its potential impacts to the community and the environment. Staff conducted a site inspection of the proposed waste disposal site on August 27, 2002. Staff has concerns regarding underlying fractured bedrock of the site, the proximity of the disposal site to Lake Cuyamaca, and the potential for RV holding tank chemical wastes entering the disposal system that could result in contamination of the Lake and groundwater underlying the treatment system.

As a follow-up to the site inspection conducted on August 27, 2002, staff has prepared a memorandum dated September 23, 2002 that provides comments on the proposed project. By letter dated October 1, 2002 (copy enclosed), staff informed the discharger of the results of the August 27 inspection with a request for additional hydrogeologic information regarding the proposed disposal site no later than October 10, 2002. It should be noted that staff intends to recommend a prohibition of discharge for all

chemical RV holding tank wastes to the subsurface disposal system due to the proximity of the project to drinking water sources.

Staff is currently preparing tentative waste discharge requirements (WDRs) which will be sent to the discharger and all interested parties for review and comment. We plan to present the tentative WDRs along with any errata to the Regional Board for consideration of adoption at the November 13, 2002 meeting.

Another issue which was raised by concerned citizens in the project vicinity is that 2,100 acres of land, known as the Tulloch Ranch, which is on the northern edge of the Cuyamaca Reservoir, was purchased by the Nature Conservancy via loan by the State Water Resources Control Board on January 16, 2002 to protect the watershed from degradation (see attached news article dated February 6, 2002). The Nature Conservancy was unable to purchase the 31-acre site where the discharger has proposed to construct the septic tank and subsurface disposal leach field infiltration system.

7. Annual Fee Collection Status Report 1993-2001 *(Mark Alpert and Vicente Rodriguez) (Attachment B-7)*

The September 11, 2002 Regional Board agenda identified eight dischargers for which Complaints for assessment of Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs) were issued for failure to pay annual fees associated with coverage under waste discharge requirements or National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The ACLs against these dischargers were the outcome of increased Regional Board efforts to reduce the delinquency rate particularly by dischargers subject to the construction and industrial stormwater regulations.

Five of the dischargers waived their rights to a hearing, paid their outstanding annual fees, and accepted the full assessment of civil liabilities established in the issued Complaints. At the October 9 and November 13, 2002 Regional Board meetings, the Board intends to consider adoption of administrative civil liability orders accepting the waiver of public hearing and payment of recommended liability from these dischargers. The Regional Board published a public notice (attached) in the San Diego Union Tribune, the Riverside Enterprise, and the Orange County Register. The remaining three Complaints were dismissed after additional information was received that showed the dischargers were actually in full compliance.

Unfortunately, there still exist 200 stormwater and 32 WDR dischargers, including Federal agencies that have failed to pay annual fees. Consequently, the Regional Board must continue to place a high priority on this issue and continue aggressive pursuit of reducing the amount of outstanding annual fees. These efforts will focus on remaining fiscal year 2001 non-payers and the upcoming 2002 billing cycle. This next billing process begins with invoicing by the State Water Resources Control Board followed by up to two late notices sent 30 and 60 days after the original due date. For those remaining outstanding fees, the Regional Board will escalate enforcement with a combination of direct contact with the delinquent dischargers, followed by warning letters, and ultimately

issuance of Complaints for administrative assessment of civil liability. In addition to the assessed ACL amount, the discharger remains responsible for payment of the unpaid annual fee. Staff believes this systematic approach provides a fair opportunity to dischargers to achieve compliance with permit requirements.

Our increased emphasis on reducing delinquent fees for FY 2001 was very successful and reduced the outstanding fees owed to the State by approx. $220,000 ($150,000 for WDRs and $70,000 for stormwater permits). The following table shows uncollected fees as of September 24, 2002 for both stormwater and annual fee programs listed by year. For stormwater, this represents approx. 200 industrial and construction dischargers that have not paid invoices for multiple years. For annual fees there are approx. 32 dischargers that have not paid fees for multiple years. Federal agencies are responsible for more than $300,000, which represents approx. 75% of the outstanding uncollected debt in the annual WDR program. In the future, we will continue to provide the Regional Board with periodic updates on the progress to reduce outstanding fees.

Uncollected Fees San Diego Regional Board FY 1993-2001 (as of September 24, 2002)

	StormWater	Annual WDR/NPDES		
FY		federal	non-federal	Total
93	$ 500	$ 50,242	$ 17,700	$ 67,942
94	$ 500	$ 79,400	$ 47,900	$ 127,300
95	$ 1,250	$ 20,000	$ 2,500	$ 22,500
96	$ 2,341	$ 20,000	$ 4,100	$ 24,100
97	$ 5,500	$ 20,000	$ 8,400	$ 28,400
98	$ 10,400	$ 19,000	$ 400	$ 19,400
99	$ 21,750	$ 22,900	$ 1,400	$ 24,300
0	$ 24,750	$ 29,200	$ 17,500	$ 46,700
1	$ 24,250	$ 58,400	$ 8,500	$ 66,900
Total 93-01	$ 91,241	$ 319,142	$ 108,400	$ 427,542

8. Landfill Status

Mission Bay Landfill *(Brian McDaniel and John Odermatt)*

On September 13, 2002, the Regional Board staff attended meeting of a technical advisory committee (TAC) convened by City Councilwoman Donna Frye to discuss the status of the Mission Bay Landfill. Members of the public, City of San Diego environmental staff, and Regional Board staff attended the meeting. The participants compiled a list of potential Study Objectives as follows:

- Determine the horizontal and vertical extent of Mission Bay Landfill.
- Characterize, using standard methods, the current contents of Mission Bay Landfill.

- Compile and compare previous analytical results to ensure that contaminates of potential concern (COPCs) are included in the characterization.
- Evaluate current and historical migration (fate and transport) of the substances deposited in the Mission Bay Landfill.
- Characterize the known biological and human health hazards of found substances.

The next meeting of the Mission Bay Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is scheduled for October 25, 2002.

Otay Annex Class III Landfill *(Brian McDaniel and John Odermatt)*
San Diego Landfill Systems is a subsidiary of Allied Waste Inc. and the owner and operator (the "*discharger"*) at the Otay Landfill). The discharger submitted a technical report dated November 1, 2000 documenting the presence of an estimated 575 cubic yards of soils emitting radioactivity from isotopic sources including ^{226}Radium, ^{238}Uranium and ^{232}Thorium present within cover soils located at a former green waste processing site (covering approximately 0.4 acres).

On September 3, 2002, San Diego Landfill Systems provided the Regional Board with a technical report including a plan for source excavation and removal plan of radioactive soils from the Otay Annex Class III Landfill. The plan was developed in response to comments received by San Diego Landfill Systems from the California Department of Health – Radiological Health Branch indicating that excavation of impacted soils may be required. The discharger proposes to excavate residual low-level radioactive wastes, place the wastes into containers for transport, and dispose of the wastes at a facility licensed to accept large quantities of naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM). Three disposal facilities currently under consideration include: Envirocare (Utah), U.S. Ecology (Hanford, Washington) and Waste Control Specialists (Pasadena, Texas).

PART C
STATEWIDE ISSUES OF IMPORTANCE TO THE SAN DIEGO REGION

1. Grant Project Selection *(Bruce Posthumus)*
At its October 3 Board Meeting and Workshop, the SWRCB is scheduled to discuss proposed resolutions approving ranked lists of project proposals for five grant programs for which San Diego region applicants are eligible. The SWRCB will consider adoption of those resolutions at a future meeting, possibly on October 10.

Funding for three of the grant programs - the Watershed Protection Program, Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program, and Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program – is provided by the state pursuant to the Costa-Machado Water Act of 2000 (Proposition 13). Funding for the other two programs – the Clean Water Act section 319(h) Nonpoint Source Implementation Program and Clean Water Act section 205(j) Water Quality Planning Program – is provided by the federal government. Funding of projects on the 205(j) and 319(h) lists is subject to USEPA approval.

Attached **Table 1** identifies proposed San Diego region projects that would be funded if the SWRCB approves the ranked lists as recommended and USEPA approves funding of proposed 205(j) and 319(h) projects in accordance with those lists. As Table 1 indicates, there would be a total of fourteen San Diego region projects. Those proposed projects would take place in eight of the region's eleven hydrologic units and in all three counties. Attached **Table 2** summarizes the amount of grant funding available from each grant program and the total amount of funding from each grant program that would go to proposed San Diego region projects.

The complete recommended lists for each grant program are available from the October 3 SWRCB agenda at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/agendas/2002/october/1003wrk.html. (See items 6, 7, and 8.)

TABLE 1

PROPOSED SAN DIEGO REGION PROJECTS TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDING (tentative)

(based on recommended ranked lists of proposals to be considered at 10/03/02 SWRCB Workshop)

Grant Program	Applicant	Project Title	Grant Amount	Hydrologic Unit	County
Proposition 13 Watershed Protection Program	Mission Resource Conservation District	Upper San Luis Rey Watershed Arundo Control and Riparian Habitat Restoration	$911,000	San Luis Rey (903)	San Diego
	Riverview Water District	San Diego River Park-Lakeside Conservancy: Restoration and Recharge	$1,290,725	San Diego (907)	San Diego
Proposition 13 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program	City of San Diego	Chollas Creek Water Quality Protection & Habitat Enhancement Project	$2,244,000	Pueblo San Diego (908)	San Diego
	City of Laguna Niguel	Upper Sulphur Creek Restoration	$928,723	San Juan (901)	Orange
	Los Penasquitos Lagoon Foundation	Los Penasquitos Sediment Control Project	$1,102,000	Penasquitos (906)	San Diego
	Elsinore-Murrieta-Anza Resource Conservation District	Lower Warm Springs Creek Restoration	$1,955,000	Santa Margarita (902)	Riverside
	National Audubon Society	Bell, Dove and Tick Creek Water Reclamation and Habitat Restoration Project	$402,000	San Juan (901)	Orange
	County of San Diego	Santa Maria Creek Protection and Restoration Project	$1,500,000	San Dieguito (905)	San Diego

TABLE 1
(continued)

PROPOSED SAN DIEGO REGION PROJECTS TO RECEIVE GRANT FUNDING (tentative)

(based on recommended ranked lists of proposals to be considered at 10/03/02 SWRCB Workshop)

Grant Program	Applicant	Project Title	Grant Amount	Hydrologic Unit	County
Proposition 13 – Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program	Friends of Famosa Slough	Famosa Slough Wetland Restoration / Fill Removal	$367,000	San Diego (907)	San Diego
	California State Coastal Conservancy	Lower San Diego River Private Landowner Incentive CNPS Demonstration Project: Water Quality Treatment Control and Creek Restoration and Stewardship Project	$800,000	San Diego (907)	San Diego
	The Nature Institute	WESTAR – Wetland Expansion Science & Technology Against Runoff	$236,000	Penasquitos (906)	San Diego
319(h) - Nonpoint Source Implementation Program	Agua Hedionda Lagoon Foundation	*Caulerpa taxifolia* Eradication Program	$500,000	Carlsbad (904)	San Diego
	Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District	Restoration of Habitat Corridor, Invert of Murietta Creek, Phase I	$318,154	Santa Margarita (902)	Riverside
205(j) - Water Quality Planning Program	City of San Diego	San Dieguito River Watershed Management Plan	$125,000	San Dieguito (905)	San Diego

TABLE 2

SAN DIEGO REGION SHARE OF GRANT FUNDS (tentative)

(based on recommended ranked lists of proposed projects to be considered at 10/03/02 SWRCB Workshop)

A	B	C	D	E	F	G
Grant Program	**Eligible Area**	**Grant Funds Available**	**Total Grant Funds Requested**	**SD Region Grant Funds Requested**	**Funding for SD Region Projects**	**San Diego Region Percentage (F/C)**
Proposition 13 Watershed Protection Program (for projects in counties designated for 60% of funds)	Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, and San Diego counties	$10.6 million	~$14.6 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$3.3 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$2.2 million	~21%
Proposition 13 Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program (for projects in counties designated for 60% of funds)	Ventura, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Riverside, Orange, and San Diego counties	$22.3 million	~$55.7 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$14.2 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$8.1 million	~36%
Proposition 13 Coastal Nonpoint Source Control Program (for projects in counties designated for 60% of funds)	Ventura, Los Angeles, Orange, and San Diego counties	$11.8 million	~$32.4 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$5.0 million (from applicants invited to submit full proposals)	~$1.4 million	~12%
319(h) (Nonpoint Source Implement-ation)	Statewide	~$5.5 million	~$22.7 million	~$2.9 million	~$0.8 million	~15%
205(j) (Water Quality Planning)	Statewide	~$0.6 million	~$3.1 million	~$0.454 million	$0.125 million	~28%
TOTAL		**~$50.8 million**	**~$128.5 million**	**~$25.9 million**	**~$12.7 million**	**~25%**

2. Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program – Contaminant Fact Sheets *(John Odermatt) (Attachment C-2a&b)*

The California Legislature and Governor, as well as private citizens, have become increasingly concerned about the recent public supply well closures due to the detection of chemicals, such as MTBE from gasoline and various solvents from industrial sources. As a result of the increased awareness toward groundwater quality, the Supplemental Report of the 1999 Budget Act required the State Water Resources Control Board (State

Board) to develop a comprehensive ambient groundwater monitoring plan. To meet this mandate, the State Board created the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program. The Division of Clean Water Programs, Land Disposal Section, Groundwater Special Studies Unit, directs the GAMA Program at the State Board. The primary objective of the GAMA Program is to assess the water quality and relative susceptibility of groundwater resources.

The GAMA Program has two water quality sampling components:

California Aquifer Susceptibility (CAS) Assessment

The California Aquifer Susceptibility (CAS) assessment is a study of the water quality and relative susceptibility of groundwater that serves as a source for public drinking water supplies. The State Board, with assistance from the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL), is collecting data to evaluate the use of groundwater age (using tritium-helium analysis) and low-level volatile organic compound (VOC) concentrations as indicators of the susceptibility of groundwater to contamination. Age-dating provides information on the presence of young groundwater and analysis of low levels of VOCs provides an "early warning" for potential VOC contamination. Since the widespread use of regulated chemicals occurred following World War II, groundwater that has recharged during the past 50 years will be considered more susceptible to contamination from various land-use activities. In addition, low-level VOC analysis for compounds such as methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE) will allow water managers to identify trends in groundwater quality in their region and respond before concentrations reach action levels.

The CAS assessment is designed to sample the approximately 16,000 public supply wells in California. Sampling began in 2000 and will continue for the next several years depending on the availability of funding. Scientists from the USGS and LLNL are conducting sampling and analysis. Quality-control samples are collected to assure that bias has not been introduced as a result of sampling procedures.

The State Board is implementing the CAS Assessment, in consultation with the Department of Health Services (DHS) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR), as part of the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program. **Attachment C-2a** contains a fact sheet with additional detailed information on the CAS Assessment.

Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Project

Currently, the quality of domestic well water in California is largely unknown. Other states with domestic well sampling programs have found constituents, such as MTBE, present in domestic wells. The Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Project will sample domestic wells for various constituents commonly found in domestic well water and provide that information to the domestic well owners. In addition, the Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Project will include a public education component to aid the

public in understanding water quality data and water quality issues affecting domestic water wells. The Voluntary Domestic Well Assessment Project will focus on specific areas, as resources permit. The focus areas will be chosen based upon existing knowledge of water quality and land use, in coordination with local environmental agencies. The State Board will incur the costs of sampling and analysis, and the results will be provided to domestic well owners as quickly as possible.

The Voluntary Project Pilot study was conducted in January 2002. Ten private water supply wells were tested locally in El Dorado, Nevada and Placer counties. A certified laboratory analyzed the water samples and the results will be provided to the well owners. Based on the experience from the pilot study, Voluntary Project staff will update the Voluntary Project work plan.

The GAMA Program is also focused on an effort to identify and centralize the many sources of groundwater data and information available in the state. As part of this effort, the State Board has joined with other groundwater agencies to form a Groundwater Resources Information Sharing Team (GRIST). The various groundwater data sets will be made accessible to the public and interested agencies within a Groundwater Resources Information Database (GRID). The GAMA Project has recently produced a series of Groundwater information Fact Sheets for selected environmental pollutants listed in the table below. including: Arsenic, Hexavalent Chromium (Cr^{6+}), nitrates/nitrite, Tetrachloroethylene (PCE), Trichloroethylene (TCE), Perchlorate, 1,2,3-Trichloropropane (TCP), methyl tertiary-butyl-ether (MTBE), N-nitrosodimethylamine (NDMA), and 1,3-Dibromo-3-dichloropropane (DBCP). These pollutants were selected from the lists of general constituents to be sampled for low-level VOC analyses by the USGS and LLNL. Information included in the Groundwater Information Fact Sheets include regulatory levels and adverse health effects, analytical test methods, known sources (natural and anthropogenic), environmental fate and transport characteristics, history of occurrence, remediation/treatment technologies, and references. **TABLE 1** in **attachment C-2b** summarizes information from existing Groundwater Information Fact Sheets for statewide occurrences of pollutants (listed above) in public water supply wells, except for MTBE. TABLE 1 contains a threat ranking, by the Regional Board staff in the Site Mitigation and Cleanup and Land Discharge Units, based upon the perceived frequency that the listed contaminants are: (a) detected in leachate/groundwater at landfills and (b) are chemicals of concern for investigation and cleanup at SLIC/DoD sites in the San Diego Region.

The GeoTracker database contains the following data concerning the reported frequency of MTBE at leaking UST sites located in the San Diego Region:

TABLE 2: MTBE Detection at Leaking Underground Storage Tank Sites – San Diego Region

Case Status	Number of Sites	MTBE Detected	% with MTBE

Active or Inactive (Total Cases)	5,398	228	4
Active Cases (RWQCB Lead)	241	96	40
Active Cases (LOP Lead: San Diego, Orange and Riverside)	1,511	132	9

3. Environmental Protection Indicators for California (EPIC) Report *(John Odermatt) (Attachment C-3)*

Historically, the Regional Board's have measured our success by counting the number of permits we issued, inspections conducted and dollars collected. The State Water Resources Control Board's (State Board's) Strategic Plan revises this traditional view and seeks to establish a new "yard-stick" by the Regional/State Boards should measure the effectiveness of our water quality programs. Goal number 6 in the Strategic Plan of the State and Regional Boards is that "water quality will be comprehensively measured to evaluate protection and restoration efforts." To accomplish this goal, must begin measuring our progress based on the outcomes of our work—the results we achieve—not how much work we do.

In support of Goal No. 6, the State Board has established the following water quality monitoring projects: Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Project (SWAMP) and the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Project. The State Board has worked collaboratively with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA); other boards, departments and offices (BDOs) of Cal/EPA; Resources Agency departments, U. S. EPA; the University of California, nationally prominent scientists; and stakeholder groups to develop a set of credible, scientifically sound environmental indicators. Once indicators are developed, OEHHA will assume the lead responsibility for maintaining, amending or adding indicators that enhance our ability to measure success or failure in meeting environmental objectives.

Cal-EPA intends that its BDOs will use the indicators to help us understand and evaluate:

- The causes of problems we must address;
- The current status of the environment, progress in improving it, and the quality of life for California residents; and,
- The effectiveness of our strategies.

This approach to managing is expected to provide an integrated, cross-media foundation from which to move with greater certainty in determining the course changes required to achieve our strategic objectives.

ENVIRONMENTAL INDICATORS: EPIC PROJECT

Environmental indicators are information that directly measures the health of the environment. Cal-EPA views the use of environmental indicators as being necessary to effect a transformation from the present single-medium reactive regulatory approach to a cross-media approach that partners with the Legislature and the Governor in making policy, allocating resources for maximum value, and making adjustments in priorities. As part of the implementation of the California Environmental Protection Agency's (Cal/EPA) Strategic Vision, the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) had led a collaborative effort to develop environmental indicators under the **Environmental Protection Indicators for California or "EPIC" Project**. These environmental indicators provide a means of assessing trends associated with Cal/EPA's mission, and support the development and implementation of a "results-based management system" for Cal/EPA. The environmental indicators will also be used to communicate the state of California's environment to the general public.

In April 2002, the final draft of the California EPIC Report was issued by Cal-EPA. The full text of the EPIC Report is available from Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) web site at **http://www.oehha.org/multimedia/epic/Epicreport.html. Attachment C-3** provides a fact sheet on the EPIC program.

4. Moratorium on Disposal of Decommissioned Radioactive Material into Municipal Landfills *(John Odermatt) (Attachment C-4)*

Governor Davis vetoed SB 1970 (Romero) that would have prohibited disposal of low level radioactive materials at Class III Municipal Solid Waste Landfills. The Governor's veto message for SB1970 can be found on the web at http://www.governor.ca.gov/state/govsite/gov_homepage.jsp. The Governor then issued an Executive Order (D-62-02) requiring the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to prepare a model cleanup and abatement order imposing a moratorium on the disposal of "decommissioned materials" into Class III landfills and unclassified waste management units. Class III landfills and unclassified waste management units are described in California Code of Regulations Title 27, Sections 20260 and 20230. The Executive Order defines "decommissioned materials" as materials with low residual levels of radioactivity that, upon decommissioning of a licensed site, may presently be released with no restrictions upon their use. Executive Order D-62-02 further requires the State Board to transmit the model cleanup order to all Regional Water Quality Control Boards for their consideration in adopting similar requirements in each region of the State. The moratorium on the disposal of decommissioned material shall remain in effect unit the Department of Health Services (DHS) completes its assessment of the public health and environmental safety risks associated with the disposal of decommissioned materials and its regulations setting dose standards for decommissioning to take effect. A copy of Executive Order D-62-02 is attached.